

F16T

STEAM TRAPS OR LIKE APPARATUS FOR DRAINING-OFF LIQUIDS FROM ENCLOSURES PREDOMINANTLY CONTAINING GASES OR VAPOURS

Definition statement

This subclass/group covers:

Steam traps defined by devices or special automatic valves for discharging condensate and non condensable gases from live steam with less possible loss or consumption of live steam. Furthermore not only steam traps are covered but also all kind of apparatus or valves and component parts and accessories thereof for draining-off liquids from enclosures, gas lines, steam lines or containers containing gases or vapours. Said valves are controlled thermally (thermostatically, bi-metallically driven valves), by excess or release of pressure (thermodynamically driven valves), by floats (mechanically driven valves) or controlled without moving parts (Venturi-type or labyrinth-type).

Relationship between large subject matter areas

Valves in general are classified in [F16K](#). Steam engine plants where engine aspects predominate are classified in [F01K](#), domestic central heating systems using steam are classified in [F24D](#), heat exchange or heat transfer in general is classified in [F28](#) and the generation of vapour in cores of nuclear reactors is classified in [G21](#), steam boilers in general in [F22B](#) and devices for superheating steam in [F22G](#).

References relevant to classification in this group

This subclass/group does not cover:

Degasification of liquids	B01D 19/00
Valves for removing gases or air from condensate	B01D 5/0069
Treatment of water, waste water or sewage by degassing	C02F 1/20

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Devices, e.g. valves, for venting or aerating enclosures	F16K 24/00
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Special rules of classification within this group

Attention is drawn to the definition of "steam" and "vapour". In cases where a specific entry for vapour is missing, documents related to special vapours are classified in groups where only "steam" is explicitly mentioned.

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents the following words "deaeration" and "degasification" are often used as synonyms.

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Steam traps or like apparatus for draining-off liquids from enclosures predominantly containing gases or vapours, e.g. gas lines, steam lines, containers